

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Continuation Application of:

Edward J. Bawolek; Lawrence T. Clark; &  
Mark A. Bailey

Serial No.

Filed:

For: **Method and Apparatus for Employing a  
Light Shield to Modulate Pixel Color  
Responsivity**

Continuation Application of:

Serial No. 09/524,081

Filed: March 13, 2000

Examiner: Diaz, J.

Art Unit 2815

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box New Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In connection with the filing of the Continuation Application under Rule 1.53(b),  
Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendment.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-22.

Please add claims 23-28 as follows:

23. A method comprising:
- exposing a plurality of photodiodes of an image sensor to a light source; and
  - modifying a light receiving area of a first photodiode and a second photodiode, such that,
- for a given size of light receiving area, a first photodiode is exposed to a greater amount of incident light than a second photodiode.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein modifying the light receiving area comprises modifying on the basis of a responsivity of a color assigned to one of the first photodiode and the second photodiode.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein modifying the light receiving area comprises masking a portion of one of the first photodiode and the second photodiode from incident light.

26. A method comprising:  
providing an image sensor comprising a plurality of pixels;  
modifying a light receiving area of alternate pixels, such that, for a given size of light receiving area, a first pixel is exposed to a greater amount of incident light than a second pixel;  
and  
capturing an incident light.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein modifying the light receiving area comprises modifying on the basis of a responsivity of a color assigned to one of the first pixel and the second pixel.

28. The method of claim 26, wherein modifying the light receiving area comprises masking a portion of one of the first pixel and the second pixel from the incident light.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP

Dated: 3/9/01

William T. Babbitt  
William Thomas Babbitt, Reg. No. 39,591

12400 Wilshire Boulevard  
Seventh Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90025  
(310) 207-3800